DIVISION F—LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS 2005

In implementing this agreement, the Departments and agencies should be guided by the language and instructions set forth in House Report 108–636 accompanying the bill H.R. 5006 and Senate Report 108–345 accompanying the bill, S. 2810.

In the cases where the language and instructions in either report specifically address the allocation of funds, each has been reviewed by the conferees and those that are jointly concurred in

have been endorsed in this joint statement.

In the cases in which the House or the Senate have directed the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both

the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

The conferees note that section 518 sets forth the reprogramming requirements and limitations for the Departments and agencies funded through this Division, including the requirement to make a written request to the chairmen of the Committees 15 days prior to reprogramming, or to the announcement of intent to reprogram, funds in excess of 10 percent, or \$500,000, whichever is less, between programs, projects and activities.

Finally, the conferees request that statements on the effect of this appropriation Act on the Departments and agencies funded in this Division be submitted to the Committees within 45 days of enactment of this Act. The conferees expect that these statements will provide sufficient detail to show the allocation of funds among programs, projects and activities, particularly in accounts where the final appropriation is different than that of the budget request. Furthermore, the conferees request the statements to also include the effect of the appropriation on any new activities or major initiatives discussed in the budget justifications accompanying the fiscal year 2005 budget.

The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2005, put in place by this bill, incorporates the following agreements of the

managers:

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

The conference agreement includes \$5,361,957,000 for training and employment services, instead of \$5,112,728,000 as proposed by the House and \$5,377,662,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of the amount appropriated, \$2,463,000,000 is an advance appropriation for fiscal year 2006, as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The Secretary of Labor shall take no action to amend, through regulatory or administration action, the definition established in 20 CFR 667.220 for functions and activities under title I of the Workforce Investment Act until such time as legislation reauthorizing the Act is enacted.

For Adult Employment and Training Activities, the conferees provide \$898,107,000 as proposed by the Senate, instead of \$900,000,000 as proposed by the House.

For Youth Training, the conferees provide \$994,242,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of \$1,000,965,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement includes \$1,479,419,000 for the Dislocated Worker program, as proposed by both the House and the Senate. The conferees override the formula that provides that 80 percent of the funds provided will be used for State formula grants and 20 percent in a National Reserve Account. For fiscal year 2005 the conferees provide \$1,196,048,000 for the State formula grants and \$283,371,000 for the National Reserve Account.

The conference agreement includes bill language giving the Secretary of Labor authority to use dislocated worker national reserve funds to provide assistance to a State for statewide or local use in order to address cases where there have been worker dislocations across multiple sectors or across multiple local areas. The conferees urge the Secretary, when determining competitive awards under this authority, to give favorable consideration to the applications of assistance to States that have sustained worker dislocation in such a manner and can demonstrate the capacity to respond effectively in a coordinated fashion across multiple sectors or local areas.

The conferees concur with language in the Senate report regarding the length of time it takes for the Department to approve applications for National Emergency Grants. The conferees request that the Government Accountability Office examine the administration of this program, and make recommendations for improvement.

The conference agreement includes \$54,675,000 for Native Americans as proposed by the House instead of \$55,000,000 as pro-

posed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes \$1,559,804,000 for Job Corps. Within the total, \$1,443,483,000 is provided for continuing operations of the program and \$116,321,000 is for renovation and construction of Job Corps centers. The conference recommendation includes an increase of \$10,000,000 over the budget request to begin the process of establishing additional Job Corps centers, following up on directions contained in the conference report accom-

panying Public Law 108-199.

The conference recommendation includes funding to support a demonstration partnership with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) at multiple Job Corps sites so that the Job Corps can help to fill unmet needs by providing TSA access to an expanded pool of job applicants. This funding will pay costs of both parties. The Department of Labor and the Department of Homeland Security are encouraged to develop a cooperative agreement that would help to leverage Federal resources, to provide TSA with an expanded pool of potential job applications and to utilize Job Corps facilities as appropriate to support the needs of TSA, including those of qualified private screening companies under contract to TSA.

The conferees note that Section 171 of the Workforce Investment Act requires the Secretary, every two years, to publish a plan that describes the demonstration and pilot project priorities of the Labor Department, and expects the next such plan to be completed

and published by March 31, 2005.

The conferees further direct that the Department submit an operating plan that outlines the planned allocation by major project and activity (excluding Congressionally-directed projects) of fiscal year 2005 funds for pilots, demonstrations, and research. This plan should be provided to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees no later than May 31, 2005.

The conferees recognized the effectiveness of the Family Enrichment Center in Chicago, Illinois and encourages the Department of Labor to continue its partnership with Haymarket Center in order to enhance efforts to train individuals with severe employ-

ment barriers.

With respect to the projects listed below for pilots and demonstrations, the conferees encourage the Department to ensure that these projects are coordinated with local Workforce Investment Boards. The conferees also encourage the Department to ensure that project performance is adequately documented and evaluated. The conference agreement includes the following amounts for the following projects and activities:

413 Hope Mission Ministries, Philadelphia, PA for employment skills training for disadvantaged adults and ex-offenders	\$100,000
preneurs with disabilities Advanced Ceramics Research, Inc., for academic outreach and	1,000,000
workforce development Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Juneau,	1,000,000
AK to fund training for gas pipeline workers	500,000
Working Together for Jobs-Philadelphia in conjunction with the Philadelphia Housing Authority to provide pre-apprenticeship	
training	200,000
at-risk youth and ex-offenders	50,000
training program for at-risk youth	100,000
Asnuntuck Community College, Enfield, CT, for improvements to Asnuntuck Community College's Manufacturing Technology Cen-	
ter	200,000
Automation Alley, Troy, MI for training	450,000

Aztec Fire Crew, Los Angeles, CA, for a project to train fire-fight-	
ers and emergency medical technicians Baltimore City, MD, for the ex-offender initiative at the Mayor's	400,000
Office of Employment Development BASE, Inc., Lancaster, PA to continue assisting minorities and	450,000
women in creating, retaining, and expanding microenterprises Ben Franklin Technology Partners, Harrisburg, PA to establish a Commonwealth-wide virtual network to enable companies geo- graphically dispersed across the state to share information,	100,000
training tools, and other educational resources	100,000
workforce training at iPark, a biotech and life sciences center Bismarck State College, Bismarck, ND, for a National Energy	255,000
Black Clergy of Philadelphia and Vicinity, Philadelphia, PA to train participants in integrative technology skills in the Philadel- phia area in an effort to improve job skills required for the	500,000
changing job market	4,000,000
ing programs	300,000
job information center	500,000
graduate aviation technician training program	200,000
a Center for Biomedical Workforce	100,000
training services in lean manufacturing process improvement Capital IDEA, Austin, TX, for a workforce development and train-	500,000
ing initiative, including supportive services	320,000
Britain, CT	100,000
gram	289,000
Career Resources, Bridgeport, CT, for workforce development	
Carl Sandburg College, Galesburg, for job training programs	100,000
Center for Employment Training, San Jose, CA, for an At-Risk Out-of-School Youth Demonstration Project	200,000
Center for Entrepreneurship for the New West, Bozeman, MT to	200,000
train entrepreneurial students for economic development	125,000
outreach campaign for career opportunities Central Iowa Employment & Training Consortium for a resource	100,000
center for disabled and disadvantaged individuals Central State University, Wilberforce, OH, to implement a world	600,000
class modular automation training system	200,000
Centralia College, WA, for non-traditional worker training Charity Cultural Services Center, San Francisco, CA, for its Skills	250,000
for Life initiative	400,000
Chattanooga State Technical Community College, Chattanooga, TN Cincinnati State Community College, Cincinnati, OH, for an Inte-	400,000
grated Systems Technology training program	250,000
City of Auburn, Auburn, NY	300,000
City of Holly Springs Regional Technology Center	100,000
City of Portland, Portland, OR, for its workforce assessment, train-	
ing and retraining initiative	300,000
ration and job search center for youth	200,000
and resource management workforce training initiative	150,000
Philadelphia, PA, for workforce development and training	300,000
paredness and placement for at-risk youth	535,000

Community College of Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, PA, for a Mo- bile Educational Lab to provide training in critical subject areas Community Education Council of Elk and Cameron Counties, St.	50,000
Marys, PA, for workforce training Community Empowerment Association, Pittsburgh, PA, in collaboration with Boys and Girls Harbor, Inc., New York, NY to estab-	75,000
lish a job readiness and work force development program	100,000
workforce development, training and employment services Cook Inlet Tribal Council for the Alaska's People Program in An-	150,000
chorage, AK County of San Bernardino Workforce Investment Board, San	225,000
Bernardino County, CA Desert Research Institute, Reno, Nevada to create the Northern Nevada Technology Initiative to help drive the creation of a high	250,000
technology workforce in Nevada Dorcas Place, Providence, Rhode Island to expand workplace lit-	150,000
eracy program Economic Growth Connection of Westmoreland, Greensburg, PA for	150,000
workforce skills assessment, development and training initiatives Empowerment Group, Philadelphia, PA to provide Latino and mi- nority employers with the technical assistance needed to create jobs and set up on-the-job training programs for low-income resi-	150,000
dents	100,000
bus, OH for training Enterprise Center, Philadelphia, PA to recruit and train minority	325,000
and underprivileged entrepreneurs Excel Institute, Washington, DC, for workforce training in auto-	100,000
motive technology and repair Expertise, Inc. in Las Vegas, NV, to provide employment training	430,000
assistance to low income residents	250,000
Fashion Business, Inc., Los Angeles, CA, for workforce develop- ment and training	50,000
prove manufacturing competitiveness	100,000
gram to assist small businesses in competing for government	000 000
contracts Fort Worth Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Fort Worth, TX, for	900,000
an ESL Program Fresno County Workforce Investment Board, Fresno, CA, for work-	334,000
Fresno County, Department of Employment and Temporary Assist-	400,000
ance, Fresno, CA, for Rural Vocational Training Centers	225,000
Training program HIREABILITY, Philadelphia, PA to provide employment training	500,000
to people with disabilities in the Philadelphia region Hispanic / Latino Center Inc., Pittsburgh, PA to provide workplace	100,000
readiness and job training to targeted Hispanic workers	50,000
Work Program	300,000
Illinois State University, Normal, IL for training	500,000
Illinois Valley Community College, Oglesby, IL Impact Services Corporation, Philadelphia, PA to support its Com-	400,000
munity Job Placement and Training Program Indian Territory Associates, Shawnee, OK to establish an electronic knowledge repository for the employees of the Oklahoma City Air	75,000
Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, Danville, VA, for the Fast-Track Information Technology Workforce Preparation	50,000
Program Institute for Human Investment and Economic Growth, Ashland,	100,000
Institute of Furniture Manufacturing and Management, Mississippi	100,000
State University, Mississippi State, MS	500,000

International Association of Jewish Vocational Services, Philadel- phia, PA to provide career services and job training readiness	
skills to dislocated workers Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs to create a certification process	150,000
for Spanish-English interpreters and translators	243,000
equipment and computer and skill training	150,000
Jackson Health System, Miami, FL, for Miami Dade County's Cen-	50,000
ter for Patient Safety Jewish Family and Children's Service of Pittsburgh, PA to provide intensive and individualized employment assistance to immi- grants that will address the unique barriers that immigrants	125,000
Jewish Healthcare Foundation, Pittsburgh, PA for the Health Ca- reers Futures program to train individuals for careers in patient	100,000
care	100,000
Jewish Vocational Services, Inc., Boston, MA, for job training and	200,000
workforce development	400,000
support training of skilled workers in the field of Radiology Ken's Kids, Inc. Bronx, NY, for vocational training and placement	250,000
for youth with mental retardation	50,000
Lake County, IL, for a summer youth employment program	200,000
Laramie County Community College, Cheyenne, Wyoming for im- plementation of a high tech manufacturing training curriculum Lawson State Community College, Birmingham, AL, for its Ala-	100,000
bama Center for Advanced Training Program	140,000
Louisiana National Guard, New Orleans, LA	100,000
MAGLEV, Inc., McKeesport, PA to create an associate degree training program to train individuals in Advanced Manufac-	200,000
turing Technology for precision fabrication Maine Manufacturing Extension Partnership (Maine MEP), Rapid Mobilization of the New England Manufacturing Sources to Meet	1,000,000
Marshall County Economic Division, Guntersville, AL, for the Mar-	250,000
Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, Boston, MA, in collaboration with the East Boston Neighborhood Health Cen-	20,000
ters for a workforce development initiative	250,000
MA, for manufacturing workforce development programs	125,000
burgh, PA to provide entrepreneurial skills to Veterans	100,000
Job Program	1,500,000
puter Utilization Training Program Maui Economic Development Board in Hawaii to continue the	300,000
Maui High Technical program Maura Clarke-Ita Ford Center, in partnership with New York City	300,000
College of Technology/CUNY, Brooklyn, NY, for workforce development, job training and education programs	950,000
Mayville State University, Mayville, ND, for the Traill County	250,000
Technology Center	100,000
MECA United Cerebral Palsy, Erie, PA to develop a job-training	100,000
program for adults with disabilities	50,000
curity	150,000

Melwood Horticultural Training Center, Inc., Upper Marlboro, MD, for the establishment of a document management training and	
placement program Mercy Vocational High School, Philadelphia, PA to expand its Certified Nursing Assistant training program for low-income individ-	200,000
Metropolitan Career Center, Philadelphia, PA to offer workforce training to low-income, under educated individuals who lack the	150,000
ability to gain employment without special assistance	100,000
oping skills standards	450,000
Mineral Area College, Park Hills, MO Minot State University, Minot, ND, for the Job Corps Executive	500,000
Management Program Mission of Love, Inc., Capitol Heights, MD, for a life skills, work-	650,000
force preparation, and training initiative	150,000
mated Systems for Nursery Industry Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS, Workforce Develop-	500,000
ment Training Quality Assessment (CÁVS)	400,000
Montachusett Opportunity Council, Fitchburg, MA, for a career	400,000
ladder program for certified nursing assistants	200,000
MS Tech Alliance/JSU Business Incubator	500,000
Multicultural Community Family Services, Upper Darby, PA to ad- dress the job training needs of area African immigrants and refu-	
National Council of La Raza in Washington, DC, to provide tech- nical assistance on Hispanic workforce issues including capacity	50,000
building, language barriers, and health care job training	500,000
ferral and counseling services	600,000
New York Association for New Americans, New York, NY NewCourtland Elder Services, Philadelphia, PA to provide a net-	100,000
working service designed to train existing employees and market nursing home jobs to local residents	150,000
North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, Raleigh, NC, for Project New Start, to provide employment and training serv-	
ices for dislocated workers Northeast Higher Education District, Chisholm, Minnesota, for the	400,000
TechNorth Prep Center Network	350,000
opportunities for rural workforce development	75,000
Northwest Concentrated Employment Program, WI, for the Talent	250,000
Profiling System	700,000
part of an advanced workforce development initiative	150,000
to minorities	250,000
Our House, Inc., Decatur, GA, for the "Parent Intern" program Patrick County Education Foundation, Stuart, VA, for a workforce	150,000
development project for rural communities	100,000
on skills for a manufacturing career	100,000
force development and professional training	100,000
a multipurpose center for job training of veterans	550,000

Phoenix House, Providence, RI, for a Workforce Development	
Project	100,000
a Workforce Success Program Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber Enterprise Foundation, Moon Township, PA for a business incubator and workforce develop-	200,000
ment program Polk Community College, Lakeland, FL, for the Corporate College	75,000
Program	200,000
Prince Music Theater, Philadelphia, PA, to develop the Prince Music Theater Training Institute to provide professional training	100,000
in the arts	75,000
Project ARRIBA, El Paso, TX, for a workforce training initiative Project One, Louisville, KY, for employment program technology.	340,000
salaries and material Ramsey County Workforce Solutions, North St. Paul, MN to create software for three east metro hospitals/healthcare systems to assist non-English proficient new Americans advance from entry-	25,000
level positions to higher-level skilled healthcare careers	100,000
development partners	100,000
Rend Lake College, Ina, IL, for workforce training Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc., Durant, OK to provide entre-	150,000
preneurial training	50,000
tiative at the Metropolitan Education and Training Center	320,000
plications	100,000
a nationwide program that helps abused and other at-risk women find employment	100,000
ment Program Shelton State Community College, Tuscaloosa, AL, for workforce	220,000
development, job training and job placement initiatives	410,000
South Pinellas, Inc., St. Petersburg, FL. South Bay Workforce Investment Board, Hawthorne, CA, for its	250,000
Bridges to Work program	290,000
training	100,000
Southeast Tennessee Development District, Chattanooga, TN Southland Health Care Forum, South Holland, IL, for its South-	300,000
Southwest Alaska Vocational Education Center (SAVEC). King	100,000
Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford, OK, for	500,000
Oklahoma Business Commercialization Center	320,000
Stark State College of Technology, Canton, OH	433,000
Stark State College of Technology, Canton, OH for equipment State of Hawaji, Honolulu, HI, for a project for building the capac-	200,000
ity of professional healthcare services	2,000,000
and Forestry, Syracuse, NY Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, AL, for a One-Stop Community Resource Learning Center to provide job readiness, training, place-	100,000
ment and supportive services	140,000
versity Technology Training Center	250,000
The Joblinks program for continuation costs	500,000
Tides Center of Western Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, PA, for the Keys2Work program	25,000

TIGER House, Tunkhannock Area School District, Tunkhannock, PA, for vocational training for special needs students	50,000
Twenty-First Century Council—IMPACT Learning Center.	50,000
Scottsboro, AL, for workforce development and training	75,000
for mining occupations	800,000
United Mine Workers of America, Fairfax, VA, for the UMWA Ca- reer Centers	1,200,000
University of Alaska/Southeast—Ketchikan Campus, Ketchikan, AK to provide skills assessment, training and a certification pro-	
gram for Ketchikan shipyard workers	150,000
University of Idaho, to continue and expand the Alternative Careers for Idaho Project, to assist persons dislocated from tradi-	1,800,000
tional, resource-based Idaho careers	900,000
tion services to Iowa Communities	200,000
University of Wisconsin—Stout, Menomonie, WI, for manufacturing	150,000
workforce development initiatives	150,000 100,000
Valencia County Hispano Chamber of Commerce, Belen, NM, for	100,000
workforce training	250,000
for a workforce training initiative	320,000
Vermont HITEC, Inc of Williston, VT for the Vermont Information	450,000
Technology Apprenticeship Program	325,000
Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, PA, for the Jobs for Veteran's Project	750,000
Wallace Community College, Dothan, AL, for the Southeast Ala- bama Workforce Readiness program	150,000
Waubonsee Community College, Sugar Grove, IL to train inte-	200 000
grated systems technologists	300,000
vestment and training for unemployed individuals	400,000
WV, for an information technology training program Westside Industrial Retention and Expansion Network, Cleveland,	500,000
OH, for a workforce training project	370,000
nection program to prepare individuals for the workforce	50,000
opment for women in the information technology sector Women's Resource Assistance Program Inc., Harvey, IL, for its Ca-	50,000
reer STEPS Self Sufficiency Program to prepare women for non- traditional careers	100,000
Work, Achievement, Values & Education, Inc. (WAVE) Wash-	
ington, D.C. to provide job skills training to high school drop outs Workforce Connections in La Crosse, WI for incumbent worker	75,000
Workforce Development Council of King County, WA, to provide lit-	200,000
eracy assistance and job training for immigrants	100,000
vancement Demonstration project	400,000
Counties, Utica, NY	175,000
Workforce Resource, Inc in Menomonie, WI for incumbent health care worker training	150,000
WorkNet Pinellas, Clearwater, FL Wrightco Technologies, Ebensburg, PA to provide security systems installation and high-tech communications training to clients	200,000
Wrightco Technologies, Inc., Claysburg, PA to support job-training	100,000
program with UMWA	100,000

The conference agreement includes \$50,000,000 for Responsible Reintegration of Youthful Offenders as proposed by the Senate. The House did not recommend funds for this activity. The conference agreement also provides \$20,000,000 for the prisoner re-entry initiative, instead of \$40,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House did not recommend funds for this activity. Within the amount provided for prisoner re-entry, the conferees encourage the Department to partner with organizations with a proven history of reducing recidivism by helping individuals exiting prison make the

successful transition to employment.

The conference agreement includes \$250,000,000 requested by the administration to carry out the Community College/Community-Based Job Training Grant initiative. Of this amount, bill language provides that \$125,000,000 is to be allocated from National Emergency Grant funds available under section 132(a)(2)(A) of the Workforce Investment Act, overriding the limitation otherwise imposed under section 171(d). The Secretary is expected to initially use resources from the National Emergency Grants account for these awards that are designated for non-emergencies under sections 171(d) and 170(b) of the Workforce Investment Act. Community-Based Job Training Grant awards will also be subject to the limitations of sections 171(c)(4)(A) through 171(c)(4)(C) of the Workforce Investment Act to ensure that these grants are awarded competitively. Funds used for this initiative should strengthen partnerships between workforce investment boards, community colleges, and employers, to train workers for high growth, high demand industries in the new economy.

The conferees provide \$7,000,000 for the Denali Commission for job training instead of \$8,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House recommendation did not include funds for this activity.

STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OPERATIONS

The conference agreement appropriates \$3,666,235,000 for State Unemployment Insurance and Employment Service Operations, instead of \$3,582,848,000 as proposed by the House and \$3,636,235,000 as proposed by the Senate. For unemployment insurance services, the bill provides \$2,695,214,000 instead of \$2,701,214,000 as proposed by the House and \$2,665,214,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement includes \$2,684,714,000 for UI State Operations instead of \$2,690,714,000 as proposed by the House and \$2,654,714,000 as proposed by the Senate. The agreement includes a contingency reserve amount should the unemployment workload exceed an average weekly insured claims volume of 3,227,000 instead of 3,327,000 as proposed by the House.

For the Employment Service grants to states, the agreement includes \$786,887,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of \$696,000,000 as proposed by the House. This includes \$23,300,000 in general funds as proposed by the House instead of \$23,163,000 as proposed by the Senate and \$763,587,000 from the "Employment Security Administration" account of the unemployment trust fund instead of \$672,700,000 as proposed by the House and

\$763,724,000 as proposed by the Senate.

For Employment Service national activities the agreement includes \$65,500,000 as proposed by the Senate, instead of \$67,000,000 as proposed by the House.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

The conference agreement appropriates \$171,473,000 for Program Administration, instead of \$168,854,000 as proposed by the House and \$177,615,000 as proposed by the Senate. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes \$404,345,000 for the Employment Standards Administration, salaries and expenses, instead of \$402,818,000 as proposed by the House and \$405,870,000 as proposed by the Senate. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes \$468,109,000 for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration instead of \$461,599,000 as proposed by the House and \$468,645,000 as proposed by the Senate. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

The conferees concur with the House bill and report language regarding OSHA's enforcement of the Respiratory Standard as it applies to tuberculosis. The conferees advise OSHA to take no further action with regard to respiratory protection for occupational exposure to TB until such time as the CDC has completed the ongoing revisions of its TB guidelines.

The conferees concur with the Senate bill and report language that not less than \$3,200,000 is to be used to extend funding for the Institutional Competency Building training grants provided that a grantee has demonstrated satisfactory performance.

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes \$281,535,000 for the Mine Safety and Health Administration instead of \$275,567,000 as proposed by the House and \$280,002,000 as proposed by the Senate. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

Within the total, the conference agreement includes \$2,000,000 to be available for mine rescue and recovery activities on a non-contingency basis as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees expect the Mine Safety and Health Administration to keep it fully and currently informed of A-76 competitions, and that any competitions will be conducted fairly and equitably and will result in significant savings and the improvement in the quality of services to taxpayers. The conferees urge all possible diligence to ensure that inherently governmental functions are not subject to A-76 competitions. The conference agreement includes the following amounts for the following projects and activities:

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Within the total for the Employment and Unemployment Statistics activity, \$5,000,000 is for the Mass Layoff Statistics program as proposed in the Senate bill.

OFFICE OF DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT POLICY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conferees commend ODEP for their efforts to enhance telework opportunities for severely disabled individuals. To build on ODEP's efforts to increase telework opportunities in the federal government, the conferees direct that \$1,000,000 be transferred from ODEP to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to build on a previous pilot between ODEP and CMS.

The conferees are pleased that CMS has piloted the performance of CMS call center work by individuals with severe disabilities working from home-based workstations. This model has the potential to be expanded within CMS and replicated outside of CMS by government agencies and others interested in following CMS's lead.

The conference agreement provides such transfer to expand and refine the existing CMS model in conjunction with National Telecommuting Institute, Inc., as well as disseminate information about this telework model to other agencies.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes \$323,422,000 for Departmental Management, salaries and expenses, instead of \$264,967,000 as proposed by the House bill and \$357,050,000 as proposed by the Senate. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity distribution agreed to by the conferees.

The conference agreement includes \$94,000,000 for the Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB). Within the total provided, \$79,000,000 is to assist developing countries with the elimination of child labor. Of this amount, \$45,000,000 is for the International Labor Organization's International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labor and \$34,000,000 is provided for bilateral assistance to improve access to basic education in international areas with a high rate of abusive and exploitative child labor. In addition, the conference agreement includes \$2,000,000 for ILAB to build its own

permanent capacity to monitor and report regularly and in-depth to the Congress on the extent to which foreign countries with trade and investment agreements with the United States respect internationally-recognized worker rights and effectively promote core labor standards. The conference agreement also includes \$11,000,000 for Federal administration and other ILAB programs.

The conference agreement includes \$2,000,000 for the purpose of assisting the International Labor Organization in implementing a program to confront HIV/AIDS in the workplace. The primary purpose of this program shall be to promote workplace policies which combat HIV-related stigma and discrimination, and promote prevention on the basis of tripartite partnerships among workers,

employers and governments around the world.

The conferees are disturbed that the Department of Labor transferred fiscal year 2004 funds to augment activities for which funds were previously denied and to initiate new activities for which both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees denied funding. The Appropriations Committees have provided authority to reprogram and transfer funds in order to provide flexibility to the Department to address unforeseen needs and emergencies. However, the Department, instead, has used these flexibilities to circumvent funding decisions made by the Congress. Therefore, the conferees have included bill language to clarify reprogramming and transfer procedures.

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

The conference agreement includes \$224,648,000 for Veterans Employment and Training instead of \$225,648,000 as proposed by the House and \$226,781,000 as proposed by the Senate. The detailed table at the end of this joint statement reflects the activity

distribution agreed to by the conferees.

The conference agreement includes \$13,198,000 for activities under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. The conferees intend that the additional resources over FY 2004 be used for additional investigations and educational outreach to employers about reemployment rights of uniformed service members departing from and returning to work.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

The conference agreement includes \$10,000,000 for the Working Capital Fund the same as proposed by the House instead of \$15,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

General Provisions

ONE PERCENT TRANSFER AUTHORITY

The conference agreement modifies a provision proposed by the Senate limiting the authority to transfer funds between a program, project or activity and requiring a 15 day notification of any transfer.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 13126

The conference agreement includes a provision proposed by the Senate that none of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be obligated or expended for the procurement of goods produced by forced or indentured child labor. The House bill contained no similar provision.

DENALI COMMISSION

The conference agreement includes a provision proposed by the Senate that authorizes to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to the Denali Commission to conduct job training where Denali Commission projects will be constructed. The House bill contained no similar provision.

TRANSIT SUBSIDY

The conference agreement includes a provision directing the Secretary to provide, within 45 days, to the Department of Labor employees in the National Capital Region the full transit subsidy that they are eligible to receive.

CONGRESSIONAL JUSTIFICATIONS

The conference agreement includes bill language requiring the Department of Labor to submit its fiscal year 2006 congressional budget justifications in the traditional budget structure rather than in a "performance" budget structure. The Department is directed to return to preparing the traditional congressional justifications as they were prepared prior to fiscal year 2003, with separate sections for each appropriations account, providing detailed information on the prior year, current year, and requested budget year funding and Federal staffing levels for each program, project, or activity funded within each account; a detailed narrative description of each program, project, or activity; and budget and measurement information should be submitted as a separate appendix in the budget justification material.

The conferees support the Department's effort to integrate program performance more prominently into its budget formulation and to display that information more thoroughly in the justification, but the conferees direct that technical account and program information be prominent in each agency's budget justifications similar to the Department's budget justifications prior to fiscal year 2003 so that information can be found easily and quickly. The Department is directed to delineate materials by appropriation account, providing detailed information on the prior year, current year, and requested budget year funding and Federal staffing levels for each program, project, or activity funded within each account; a narrative description of each program, project, or activity; and any proposed changes to such program, project, or activity. The Department is encouraged to continue using outcome and performance measures as the primary management tool for resource allocation and the evaluation of programs and individuals.

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OVERTIME REGULATION

The conference agreement deletes without prejudice language proposed by the House and Senate stating that none of the funds provided may be used to implement or administer any changes to regulations regarding overtime compensation in effect on July 14, 2004.